

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/640, 629
Reply to Final Office Action dated August 9, 2006

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PATENT
450100-02651

OCT 04 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-12 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 3, 5-7, 9, 11 and 12, which are independent, are hereby amended. No new matter has been introduced. It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which the Applicant is entitled.

Claims 1-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as allegedly indefinite and were indicated as allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Claims 1, 3, 5-7, 9, 11 and 12 have been amended and therefore obviate the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Therefore, Applicant submits that claims 1-12 are patentable.

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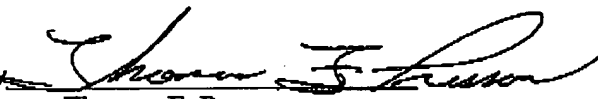
CONCLUSION

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicant respectfully requests early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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